



# Update on Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) Operating Status during COVID-19 Emergency

## What is our operating status?

Along with the rest of District government, ABRA remains operational with services available online and by mail while employees work remotely through the duration of the public health emergency.

## How does this impact what we do?

- **Licensing** – Modified service. See service enhancements, temporary privileges, and deadline extensions in next section.
- **ABC Board Hearings** – Modified. All ABC Board meetings will take place via teleconference through the duration of the public health emergency. Agendas and call-in instructions are posted at [abra.dc.gov](http://abra.dc.gov).
- **Mediations** – Modified. All mediations conducted through the duration of the public health emergency will take place via teleconference.
- **Protest Hearings** – Modified. Roll Call hearings on protests will take place virtually through the duration of the public health emergency.
- **Community Meeting Attendance** – Suspended. Agency representatives will answer all public questions by email or phone in lieu of attending or presenting at community meetings, including ANC meetings, through the duration of the public health emergency.
- **Enforcement** – No changes. Compliance with ABC laws will continue to be monitored and appropriate enforcement action will be taken if a licensee violates any law.
- **Afterhours Hotline** – No changes. Investigators will continue to respond to complaints and inquiries made to the complaint hotline and email daily from 7:00 pm to 4:00 am.
- **Recruitment** – Modified service. We will continue to post new positions and accept applications. No in-person interviews will take place through the duration of the public health emergency.

## How does this impact our physical locations?

- **ABRA's Office** (2000 14th Street NW, Suite 400 South, Washington, DC 20009) is unavailable for in-person services through the duration of the public health emergency. All employees are telecommuting and are available by phone and email during normal business hours of 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.

## What else are we offering to meet your needs?

- **On-Site Consumption** – Indoor dining is prohibited at all alcohol establishments from December 23, 2020 at 10:00 pm through January 15, 2021 at 5:00 am. Establishments may continue to offer outdoor dining on existing licensed sidewalk cafes and summer gardens, and on new and expanded outdoor public and private space between 6:00 am to 12:00 am, daily. On-premises alcohol service and consumption is restricted to 6:00 am to 10:00 pm, daily. Registration is required for new and expanded space. Full guidelines available at [abra.dc.gov](https://abra.dc.gov).
- **Carry-Out and Delivery Privileges** – Alcohol may be sold for carry-out and delivery with at least one (1) prepared food item from 6:00 am to 12:00 am, daily. Registration is required. Full guidelines available at [abra.dc.gov](https://abra.dc.gov).
- **Licensing** – Service enhancements have been made to allow individuals to submit licenses and make payments remotely.
  - **Applications can be emailed, mailed, or placed in the lobby drop box.**
    - Email | [abra@dc.gov](mailto:abra@dc.gov)
    - Mail and Drop Box | ABRA, 2000 14th Street NW, Suite 400 South, Washington, DC 20009
  - **E-signatures are allowed.**
  - **Self-certification.** Notarization is not required.
  - **Payment by mail or over the phone at (202) 442-4423.**
- **Digital Offerings** – Applications, quick guides, and other resources are available at [abra.dc.gov](https://abra.dc.gov).

## What precautions are we taking to limit the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19)?

Our employees are taking precautions to keep themselves healthy and limit the spread of infections like regularly washing their hands, cleaning facilities more frequently, and reducing close contact with each other and residents. Employees have been asked to let their supervisor know immediately if they feel sick.

## Where should you go if you have questions?

For questions about any of the services we provide and information on any future changes, please contact us at (202) 442-4423 or [abra@dc.gov](mailto:abra@dc.gov). For more information, please visit [coronavirus.dc.gov](https://coronavirus.dc.gov).